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Dan Smoot Report

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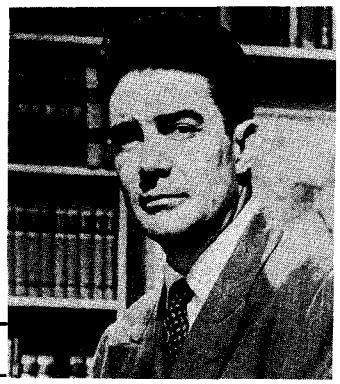

DAN SMOOT

THE REMNANT

Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and *we should have been like unto Gomorrah* — Isaiah 1:9

And now for a little space grace hath been shewed *from the Lord our God, to leave us a remnant* — Ezra 9:8

Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace — Romans 11:5

Wherefore lift up thy *prayer for the remnant that are left* — 2 Kings 19:4

Most of the dangers to our free society were created by our own government and are daily being made worse by government programs. Our Republic cannot be saved until the people understand what is happening, and are imbued with determination to elect constitutionalists to high office. Among the many obstacles to creating necessary public understanding are four of major importance.

I. One high obstacle to arousing public interest in correcting evils which government has caused is the reluctance of many people to believe that a President of the United States, members of Congress, and other high officials are stupid or evil men. The following letter is typical of several received from people who hear my broadcasts or read this *Report*:

"What you say sounds sensible; and you give facts; but if government programs are as bad as you claim, why do high officials support them? If you are right, we must conclude that our top leaders are too stupid to understand something easily understandable to average people —or, they are evil men who want to ruin our country. I cannot accept either of these conclusions. If President Johnson were a *stupid* man, he would not be where he is today; and I simply cannot believe that he is an evil man who wants to hurt his own country, though there are many things about him and his political record that I dislike. I must conclude, therefore, that there has to be a lot that is good and desirable in the government programs you condemn, or so many smart and honorable people would not be for them."

Such acceptance, on faith, of government programs, even when logic and facts prove the programs harmful, is based on wrong assumptions. It assumes that intelligent, well-intentioned people always do good and wise things. It overlooks the fact that practically every tyrant in history (including Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin) was a well-intentioned person trying to

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do what *he* considered best for his country or for the world. In each case, the man had to have considerable intelligence.

I do not accuse President Johnson of being stupid, or of being so evil that he *wants* to hurt his country; but I do accuse him of an attitude toward the Constitution which can destroy all the precious human liberties which the Constitution was ordained to protect.

By his *deeds*, the President proves that he regards the Constitution as nothing more than a vague statement of general purpose which leaves the President unlimited power to do *anything* which he can persuade, coerce, or blackmail Congress to approve. In reality, the Constitution is a binding contract, which specifies everything the federal government can *legally* do, prohibits the government from doing anything not clearly specified.

President Johnson is removing all legal barriers to absolute tyranny. He assumes power — not granted in the Constitution — to use tax money for building up stockpiles of aluminum and copper which the government does not need, and then uses the threat of dumping those commodities on the market as a club to control producers' prices. This is illegal use of power to achieve an illegal purpose, because the President has no authority to control prices. What is to keep the President from illegally forcing other industries to bend to his personal will? What is to keep him from using illegal power to reward some groups, punish others? Nothing! President Johnson often displays favoritism in his use of power. One example: while forcing his will upon aluminum and copper industries, on the pretext that a rise in aluminum and copper prices would harm the nation, the President deliberately refused to do anything about a machinist union strike (against McDonnell Aircraft Corporation) which obviously hurt the nation by halting construction of Phantom Jet fighter planes badly needed in Vietnam.[1]

The President assumes power — not granted in the Constitution — to confiscate money from all citizens to subsidize government-approved activities of chosen groups of citizens. By a similar assumption of power, he could seize all the property of all the people for redistribution to suit his pleasure. It would not be stretching the same assumption of power very much for the President to order liquidation of all Americans whom he considers a threat to his plans for a great society.

Though I do not accuse President Johnson of stupidity or evil intent, I do accuse him of a lust for power — a trait common among men. Once a man has tasted power, he seems to develop an insatiable hunger for more. Scorning Lord Acton's truism that power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely, most power-hungry men sincerely feel that power in *their* hands is beneficial.

President Johnson (like the four Presidents who preceded him and all other totalitarian liberals of our time) clearly believes in the beneficence of government power. Yet, in truth, government power, though necessary in a civilized society, is potentially dangerous and inherently evil. If unchecked by specific limitations, government power will always expand until it stifles the civilization it was intended to protect. History — from ancient to contemporary times — proves that government with unlimited power is a greater threat to the peace, progress, and freedom of human beings than anything else on earth is.

Norwegians recently voted their socialist government out of office, having finally faced up to the truth that socialism brought depressed living standards, debasement of individualism, and widespread corruption to Norway. Right now, the socialist welfare state of Great Britain is showing up as a dismal failure, though much of the fantastic cost of British socialism was paid by American taxpayers through foreign aid. President Johnson ignores these lessons of history, unfolding before his very eyes. He is driving the United States into precisely the kind of socialist welfare statism that millions of Britons and other Europeans yearn to discard. Apparently, the President feels that *he* can succeed where all others, from ancient Rome to modern England, have failed. Or, perhaps, he is so blinded by faith in the benef-

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icence of government power that he cannot see the lessons of history.

Though I do not accuse President Johnson of stupidity or evil intent, I do accuse him of wanting an America very different from the free Republic we inherited from our forefathers. President Johnson wants an America so regulated and controlled by government that everyone will exist on a flat plateau of ease and comfort — all housed alike, fed alike, trained alike, dressed alike; all thinking alike, voting alike, working alike, playing alike. The America we had was a land where everyone could either develop or waste his individual talents; where a man's being and becoming depended on his own tastes and ambitions and on his God-given abilities; where a man was as free to be an impoverished good-for-nothing as he was free to become rich.

In fact, government cannot create ease and comfort for all. If it could, it would destroy civilization. Signs are ominous that the government welfarism we already have is feeding a cancerous social growth that will be fatal, unless checked. Note some passages from an interview with Dr. William Shockley (co-winner of the Nobel Prize for physics in 1956), published in the November 22, 1965, issue of *U. S. News & World Report*, under the title "Is Quality of U. S. Population Declining?":

". . . in San Francisco . . . the proprietor of a delicatessen was blinded by a hired acid-thrower . . . . who . . . . was a teen-ager, one of 17 illegitimate children of an improvident, irresponsible woman with an I.Q. of 55 . . . . If that woman can produce 17 children in our society, none of whom will be eliminated by survival of the fittest, she and others like her will be multiplying at an enormously faster rate than more intelligent people do . . . . This sort of thing could snowball so that . . . such people could double in less than 20 years, and outnumber all the others in a few centuries . . . .

"One frightening possibility is that our humanitarian relief programs may be exerting a negative influence . . . .

"Is there an imbalance in the reproduction of inferior and superior strains? Does the reproduction tend to be most heavy among those we would least like to employ — the ones who would do least well in school? . . . With improvements of technology . . . you have had declining death rates, so that inferior strains have increased chances for survival and reproduction at the same time that birth control has tended to reduce family size among the superior elements . . . ."

II. Another obstacle to informing and arousing the public to work for the salvation of our Republic is a feeling of despair which has recently sapped the strength of our great conservative movement.

After years of hard work, constitutional conservatives had created a movement which was becoming a dominant force in American politics. In the fall of 1963, as President John F. Kennedy approached the end of his first term in office, the political influence of the Kennedy family was waning fast. Major portions of the New Frontier legislative program were hopelessly stalled in Congress. It was apparent to many astute observers that any real conservative running on the Republican ticket could defeat President Kennedy in 1964.

Then came the assassination, with its great emotional backwash, cynically and deliberately manipulated and utilized by President Johnson and other ultra liberals. People who had intelligently, honestly, and properly criticized President Kennedy's policies were made to feel ashamed, as if their honorable opposition to the President's ultra liberalism were partly responsible for his death.

With matchless cunning, President Johnson played upon peoples' emotions to rush through Congress New Frontier legislation which previously had had no chance of enactment.

Emotional backwash from the assassination was also a deciding factor in the 1964 elections. States — especially Texas, where, prior to the assassination, no liberal Democrat could have won the presidential race — voted for Johnson, as if to atone for collective guilt about the murder of President Kennedy.

Shaken by political defeat in 1964, many lead-

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ing conservatives seemed to remain in a state of shock throughout 1965, making no effort to rally resistance to the Johnson bulldozer, which pushed an incredible mass of unconstitutional, socialistic legislation through Congress. By the end of the first session of the rubber-stamp 89th Congress, many conservatives — seeing that President Johnson, in less than one year, paralyzed a movement which had taken many years to build — gave up in despair.

III. Another obstacle to arousing public action against harmful policies of government is the selfishness of people who value material prosperity above all else.

Many Americans mistakenly believe our affluence is government-created and seem sincerely to think that government with unlimited power can guarantee perpetual prosperity. Others are quite cynical: knowing where we are headed, they have adopted the slogan, "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em." They realize that government harassment of private enterprise and reckless government squandering of the nation's financial resources will inevitably lead to ruin; but *right now*, money is flowing their way; they will let others discuss causes and speculate on consequences: they intend to get theirs while the getting is good.

IV. A fourth major obstacle to reinvigorating the conservative movement is that many individuals identified with the cause of constitutional conservatism have been so vilified by powerful and influential liberals, and so harassed by agencies of the federal government, that they can take no more.

Throughout the nation, however, there is a remnant of patriots who never quit. Their dauntless determination has begun to reactivate others, and to arouse many who had never before participated in the fight to restore the constitutional foundations of our Republic.

Many groups and individuals working in the cause of constitutional conservatism give me information about their activities; but I seldom mention them in this *Report*, because I lack the means of investigation to determine that all conservative efforts called to my attention are in reality what they seem to be. If I had the means, I would not have the space to report on all that I approve.

In this issue of the *Report*, however, I wish to give a sampling of what some conservatives are doing. I know a great deal about a few of the individuals and groups mentioned below. I know some of them only by material they have sent to explain what they are doing. In all cases, the efforts mentioned typify the kind of activity that constitutional conservatives should be engaging in all over the country.

POLITICAL ACTION WITHIN THE MAJOR PARTIES. In South Dakota, the Democrat Party is tightly controlled by socialists who call themselves liberals; but the Republican Party seems basically conservative.

Knowing there is no possibility of orienting the Democrat Party toward constitutional principles, but feeling that hard work could make the Republican Party acceptable, some constitutional conservatives in South Dakota are currently trying to serve the cause of constitutional government by working within the Republican Party.

A notable effort is that of Richard R. Murphy of Sioux Falls, who is seeking the Republican nomination (in 1966) for U. S. Senator. His opponent is Senator Karl Mundt.

Liberals generally call Karl Mundt a conservative; but, in his efforts to be "moderate," Mundt has abandoned constitutional principles. His guide to action in the Senate appears to be his own judgment as to what will best serve the political interests of Karl Mundt. He casts enough conservative votes to retain the conservative label in a State where Republicans are expected to be conservative; yet, he supports some of the most reprehensible liberal legislation. Mundt's record on the notorious Voting Rights Act of 1965 is illuminating. He cast four conservative votes on proposals to amend the Act before it was passed; but, on the critical question of passing the Act (after all conservative efforts to modify it had failed), Mundt voted for it, thus aligning him-

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self, on this major issue, with extremist ultra liberals, including racial agitators, socialists, communists.

Men like Karl Mundt — wearing the conservative label while supporting the major programs of totalitarian liberalism — make it difficult for constitutional conservatives to get elected to Congress: they draw support from timid conservatives who fear that if they support someone better than a moderate, they run the risk of "throwing the election" to someone worse.

But Richard R. Murphy scorns such timid counsel. Taking an uncompromising stand as a constitutional conservative, he has high hopes of replacing Karl Mundt as Republican Senator from South Dakota.

More information on Murphy's candidacy can be obtained from Murphy For U. S. Senate Headquarters, 211 West 10th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Many men like Karl Mundt, and many much worse, will run for re-election to Congress in 1966. Voters should be offered a choice between them and genuine constitutional conservatives.

THIRD PARTY POLITICAL ACTION. In Virginia, the Virginia Conservative Council works within the framework of the two major parties to foster conservatism; but it is pledged to provide candidates who are real constitutional conservatives, when major party candidates offer nothing but liberals or moderates. In 1965, the Council — having decided that Democrat and Republican candidates for Governor of Virginia offered voters no real choice — ran its own candidate on the Conservative Party ticket.

The Conservative Party in New York did approximately the same. It did not present a full slate of candidates for the 1965 elections, but offered candidates for several significant offices. Arnold Bayley of East Hampton (a dedicated leader among constitutional conservatives) ran for State Assembly. The Conservative Party's one statewide candidate was Henry Stump Middendorf, Jr., who ran for Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals. Middendorf is a young Harvard graduate. In 1963, he organized the Independent Bar Association, to provide a professional organization for lawyers who disapprove of leftwing policies of the American Bar Association (especially the ABA's leftwing efforts to get the Connally Reservation repealed). The most widely publicized Conservative Party candidate in 1965 was William F. Buckley, who ran for Mayor of New York.

Conservative Party candidates lost in Virginia and New York; but their campaigns contributed greatly to the public informational work that must precede success at the polls.

In every district and State of the Union where Republicans and Democrats are merely rival advocates of totalitarian liberalism, offering voters no clear choice between socialism and constitutionalism, constitutional conservatives should form their own party and run their own candidates in 1966. The effort will be worthwhile for its educational impact. It will also produce positive political results: either forcing one of the major parties to return to constitutional principles, or forcing them to consolidate, thus making possible eventual formation of a new national party— a *real second* party to carry the banners of constitutional conservatism.

INFORMATION FOR POLITICAL ACTION. Whether constitutional conservatives work within the major parties, or in a third party, they should arm themselves with reliable information about the members of Congress they try to unseat. The surest measure of a member of Congress is his voting record. We are offering a Political Action Package (seven *Reports* for $1.00) which (1) shows the voting of every U. S. Senator on 46 roll call votes during 1965, of every U. S. Representative on 50 roll calls; and (2) gives the ratings of all members.

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ACTION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION. Our system of compulsory, tax-supported schools has relegated parents to the role of providing children and tax money, and of supporting establishment policies. Many parents feel that educationist philosophies and practices have eliminated basic education from schools, and have created a fabulously expensive school system which mass-produces semi-literate, undisciplined graduates.[2]

Many parents are deeply disturbed by poor textbooks used in schools, by pornographic material in school libraries, by socialistic indoctrination in the classrooms, by testing programs which create in children hostility toward their parents, discontent with their environment, contempt for their country. Many parents feel that the federal government's racial-integration programs have made bad matters infinitely worse — sacrificing education for "racial balance" to satisfy agitators.

On October 28, 1965, a group of about 50 negro parents in Lincolnton, Georgia, did something worthy of emulation: they stood on a dirt road and turned back a civil rights march. They acted on their own volition, angry because their children were being kept out of schools by civil rights agitation.[3]

In Chester Township, Pennsylvania, two youngsters were suspended from school because they brought their lunches every day, refusing to pay thirty-five cents each for federally-subsidized lunches in the school cafeteria — or to pay for the school lunches without eating them. Robert F. Russel, school board president, said that, to get federal aid, the school had to include all pupils not going home for lunch — that there was no provision for children who brought lunches. Mrs. Charles Steward, Sr., mother of the suspended students, said she could afford to buy her children's lunches, or to contribute seventy cents a day and let them eat their home-prepared lunches; but she made a stand on principle. The case aroused others who supported the Stewards. Public opinion quickly forced the school board to alter its policy.[4]

These are two examples of what parents can do within the framework of our existing system; but beyond such relatively minor accomplishments, parents can really do nothing about our public schools. President Johnson's federal aid to education programs are transferring control of public schools to a central bureaucracy responsive, not to parents and taxpayers, but to professional educationist groups like the National Education Association. An alternative is a system of private schools and church schools which do not accept federal aid — schools which are financed primarily by parents. Throughout the nation, people are seeking and finding the private-school solution to the problems of primary and secondary education; but little is being done to loosen the grip which the federal bureaucracy and the liberal-socialist establishment have on our institutions of higher learning.

In Dallas, however, a valiant effort is being made. Dr. Robert Morris has founded the University of Plano (temporary campus at 409 North Pearl Street, Dallas), a liberal arts college dedicated to the preservation of our American constitutional and cultural heritage. With no federal aid or other tax money, and with no grants from big foundations which subsidize institutions oriented toward socialism, the University of Plano, in its present, first semester, has brought to its student body such scholars as Dr. Natalie White, brilliant educator whose literature course, conducted within traditional guidelines, is rooted in the absolutes of right and wrong and in the exciting concepts of freedom; Dr. Bella V. Dodd (a former official of the communist party, now a devoted constitutionalist) for lectures on political science; Dr. Ludwig Von Mises, the world's foremost authority in the field of free-market economics.

Another interesting effort in the broad field of education was begun in 1964 at Worcester, Massachusetts, when a group of conservatives, under the leadership of Bradford Harrison, III, founded

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the Conservative Library Association. The American Library Association (controlled by totalitarian liberals) dominates the policies of most libraries in the United States. It is, to a large degree, the influence of the American Library Association which keeps the best conservative books and publications out of libraries, fills their shelves with the works of extreme leftists and with pornography parading as good literature.

The Conservative Library Association hopes to get conservative books and publications in libraries. Present headquarters address of the Conservative Library Association is 458 Stevens Avenue, Ridgewood, New Jersey.

ACTION IN CHURCHES. On October 18, 1965, the Mullins Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, by unanimous vote of the board, withdrew financial support from the National Council of Churches, until the "Council removes itself from the political area." The National Council of Churches supports practically every extremist leftwing movement or program in the United States. Mullins Methodist was specifically outraged because the NCC stands for repeal of the right-to-work section of the Taft-Hartley Act.[5]

On October 28, 1965, the Right Reverend Horace W. B. Donegan, Episcopal Bishop of New York, said his support of the civil rights movement had resulted in cancellation of several substantial gifts pledged for completion of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. He said there have been cancellations or reductions of financial support to local parish churches for the same reason.[6]

Here are obvious cues to action by church people, acting as congregational groups, or as individuals: stop supporting church organizations whose leaders engage in improper activities.

ACTION IN THE LEGION. In a resolution adopted on September 16, 1965, the Lowe-McFarlane Post No. 14 of the American Legion at Shreveport, Louisiana (third largest in the world), noted that prominent leaders encourage civil disobedience and lawless demonstrations which violate the rights of all citizens; and that federal courts often order police to protect the lawless demonstrators, thus prohibiting protection for law-abiding citizens. The resolution appealed to all public officials, including specifically the President of the United States, to *denounce* rather than to *condone* such mass lawlessness.

Imagine the wholesome impact on Congress if every American Legion Post adopted such a resolution!

WHO IS DAN SMOOT?

Born in Missouri, reared in Texas, Dan Smoot went to SMU getting BA and MA degrees, 1938 and 1940. In 1941, he joined the faculty at Harvard as a Teaching Fellow, doing graduate work for a doctorate in American civilization. From 1942 to 1951, he was an FBI agent: three and a half years on communist investigations; two years on FBI headquarters staff; almost four years on general FBI cases in various places. He resigned from the FBI and, from 1951 to 1955, was commentator on national radio and television programs, giving *both* sides of controversial issues. In July, 1955, he started his present profit-supported, free-enterprise business: publishing *The Dan Smoot Report*, a weekly magazine available by subscription; and producing a weekly news-analysis radio and television broadcast, available for sponsorship by reputable business firms, as an advertising vehicle. The *Report* and broadcast give *one* side of important issues: the side that presents documented truth using the American Constitution as a yardstick. If you think Smoot's materials are effective against socialism and communism, you can help immensely — help get subscribers for the *Report*, commercial sponsors for the broadcast.

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ACTION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. An election was held in Salt Lake City on August 17, 1965, on the question of creating a Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency to bring federal urban renewal to that city. Both major newspapers, practically all radio and television stations, and most of the city's "leaders" favored urban renewal. A group of citizens who opposed urban renewal formed the Citizens Committee for the Protection of Property Rights. Newspapers and broadcast stations denounced them harshly, providing them little opportunity to present their ideas to the public, but giving extensive coverage to all meetings, speeches, and pronouncements in favor of urban renewal. The constitutional conservatives persevered, taking the facts about urban renewal to the public by such means as they could find — word of mouth, unpublicized meetings, distribution of mimeographed material, and so on. On election day, the voters of Salt Lake City defeated urban renewal by a margin of six to one.[7]

It Can Be Done

Wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.

Constitutional conservatives hold in their hands the fate of the nation. If we resolve to give our cause a full measure of devotion, we will see a new birth of freedom. Our constitutional Republic will be restored.

FOOTNOTES

(1) "LBJ Avoids Role in Jet Plant Strike," *The Dallas Morning News*, November 21, 1965, p. 5A

(2) For additional information on the problem of modern public education, see this *Report*, "The Education Cartel," October 25, 1965. Reprint prices at bottom of Page 393 of this *Report*.

(3) UPI from Lincolnton, Ga., *The New York Times*, October 29, 1965, pp. 1, 28

(4) AP dispatch from Chester, Pa., *The Dallas Morning News*, October 29, 1965, p. 9A; AP story from Chester Township, Pa., *The Dallas Morning News*, November 12, 1965, p. 6A

(5) "Church Withdraws Council Support," *The Commercial Appeal*, Memphis, Tenn., October 23, 1965

(6) "Bishop Donegan Losing Pledges Over His Stand for Civil Rights," by Charles Grutzner, *The New York Times*, October 29, 1965, pp. 1, 32

(7) *Urban Renewal's Greatest Defeat*, by Al Biorge, Citizens Committee for the Protection of Property Rights, P. O. Box 11361, Salt Lake City, Utah

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